

Statements on S. 2691, the Pay for Performance Act

"Results for America (RFA) applauds Senators Michael Bennet (D-CO) and Orrin Hatch (R-UT) for the introduction of the Pay for Performance Act (S. 2691). This bipartisan legislation would spur federal, state, and local governments to take a Moneyball approach to meeting citizen needs. The bill builds momentum for pay for performance initiatives that leverage private investment, hard data, and rigorous evaluation to ensure government programs improve people's lives and to ensure taxpayer dollars are spent on initiatives that work. We hope the Pay for Performance Act will encourage greater innovation in this area and motivate government to shift to a results-oriented approach to serving our most vulnerable populations."

Michele Jolin, Managing Partner, Results for America

"I commend Senator Bennet and Senator Hatch for introducing the Pay for Performance Act. This bipartisan legislation would help speed up innovation in leveraging private funds to ensure public dollars are spent only on programs that work. As a former Director of OMB and House Budget Committee Chair, I firmly believe we need government at all levels to spend the money we have in more effective, efficient ways. This bill takes us a step in the right direction."

Jim Nussle, former Director of the Office of Management and Budget and U.S. Congressman from Iowa

"Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc. congratulates Senators Michael Bennet (D-CO) and Orrin Hatch (R-UT) on their sponsorship of the Pay for Performance Act. This bipartisan legislation has the potential to transform how social services are delivered in the United States. Instead of reimbursing service costs, Pay for Success contracting directs government resources only towards proven outcomes, creating a critical feedback loop between government dollars and social impact. Social Impact Financing leverages private capital to support these Pay for Success contracts, aligning all stakeholders towards a shared goal of achieving positive outcomes. Through this legislation, the federal government becomes a key partner with state and local leaders to accelerate the development of projects in areas such as early childhood, health care and homelessness."

George Overholser, CEO, Third Sector Capital Partners

"It's time government took a smarter, evidence-based approach to investing taxpayer dollars. The Pay for Performance Act brings us one step closer to that goal. This bipartisan legislation would ensure state and local dollars are spent only on programs that are proven to work. I hope this bill encourages government at all levels to start using data, evidence, and evaluation to make wiser spending and policy decisions."

John Bridgeland, former Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council (President George W. Bush)

"Senators Bennet and Hatch, through their introduction of the Pay for Performance Act, are catalyzing the development of a vibrant Social Impact Bond field in the nation's service. These public-private partnerships have the potential to direct new capital to the social sector, and drive evidence-based policy making and greater accountability in the public sector. As a leading practitioner of impact investing, Social Finance welcomes this bipartisan initiative to expand opportunity for all Americans."

Tracy Palandjian, CEO and Co-Founder of Social Finance US

"Social Impact Bonds are being used by innovative governors and mayors to tackle some of our nation's most intractable social policy challenges. For the SIB model to reach its full potential, the federal government needs to be a partner in state and local projects that generate federal savings. This legislation has the potential to unleash exciting projects in policy areas such as early childhood education, diabetes prevention, and workforce development."

Jeffrey Liebman, Professor of Public Policy, Harvard University and Director of the Harvard Kennedy School SIB Lab

"I'm writing to express our strong support for the Pay for Performance Act that you are introducing. We believe this bill represents a highly thoughtful approach to advancing Pay for Performance contracts, in which prior evidence of effectiveness determines which social programs and projects get funded and, once funded, rigorous evaluations are used to confirm whether they are producing the hoped-for improvements in people's lives. Because of the strong focus on evidence of impact, we believe this approach would be a major step forward in addressing poverty, education failure, teen pregnancy, and other problems that damage the lives of millions of Americans each year."

Jon Baron, President, Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy

“The Pay for Performance Act gives policymakers a critical, evidence-based strategy for dealing with major societal challenges. By connecting the tools of impact investing to a “what works” approach, this bill takes us one step closer to a smarter, leaner, results focused government. Senators Bennet and Hatch should be commended for providing a bi-partisan, national blueprint for cross sector investments in the outcomes our communities and country need.”

**Melody C. Barnes, former Director, White House Domestic Policy Council
(President Barack Obama)**

“Members of the America Forward Coalition applaud Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO) and Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) on the introduction of the bipartisan Pay for Performance Act. The bill would create a federal fund to promote a variety of pay for success approaches and also test social impact financing of pay for success strategies. In times of tighter budgets and greater demand for social services, we must work together to direct government resources to the most efficient programs that provide those critical services. This bipartisan bill has the potential to incentivize more efficient use of government resources to reward what works, linking government dollars to positive outcomes, and leveraging those dollars to attract private capital into the social sector. The America Forward Coalition looks forward to continuing our work with Senators Bennet and Hatch to help advance this critical legislation through the process.”

The America Forward Coalition, *a network of more than 50 innovative, impact-oriented organizations, working in every state and in more than 1,000 communities nationwide, dedicated to driving systemic change in education, early childhood, workforce development, public health, and poverty alleviation.*